

Amendments to the Drawings

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 1 and 6 and replace original Figs. 1 and 6. In Fig. 1, the dashed line associated with reference number 2 has been replaced with a solid line; in Fig. 6, member functions 2, 3 and 4 have been substituted for functions 1, 1 and 1 associated with class types B, C and D, respectively.

Attachments: Replacement Sheets (2)

Annotated Marked-Up Drawing Sheets (2)

REMARKS

In view of the foregoing Amendments and following Remarks, reconsideration and early allowance of this application is earnestly solicited.

Claims 1-3 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 4-11 have been amended. New claims 12-23 have been added. Accordingly, claims 4-23 are pending in this application.

As set forth in the Office Action, claims 1-11, as filed, were examined on the merits. Claims 1, 2 and 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 1-3 and 9-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Rao et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,628,312; and claims 6 and 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Rao et al. The Examiner objected to claims 4, 5 and 8 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but the Examiner indicated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the rejected base claim and intervening claims.

To place the application in form for early allowance, Applicant has canceled claims 1-3 without prejudice to the filing of one or more continuing applications; and Applicant has rewritten claim 4 in appropriate independent form (as suggested by the Examiner) and has amended claims 6, 7 and 9-11 to depend from amended claim 4. The claims were also amended as to form -- including, with respect to claim 6, to provide for sufficiently definite claim language in accordance with 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Accordingly, it is submitted that amended claim 4, and claims 5-11 by virtue of their dependency therefrom and the additional features recited therein, are in condition for immediate allowance, and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

New method claims 12-23 (which correspond to the pending system claims) have been added to provide protection of appropriate scope. No new matter has been introduced.

Applicant has also made corrective amendments to the application specification, including to delete now defunct references to the as-filed claims. No new matter has been introduced.

Additionally, Applicant has made corrective amendments to drawing Figs. 1 and 6 as depicted in the attached Replacement Sheets and Annotated Marked-Up Drawing Sheets. Particularly, in Fig. 1, Applicant has replaced the dashed line pointing to the front surface of the programming space associated with reference number 2 with an appropriate solid line; in Fig. 6, Applicant has substituted member functions 2, 3 and 4 for functions 1, 1 and 1 associated with class types B, C and D, respectively. These amendments are fully supported in the application specification as filed (see e.g., paragraphs [0023] and [0113]-[0114]); no new matter has been introduced. Approval of the drawing amendments is respectfully requested.

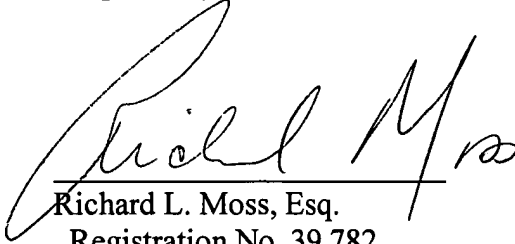
The references cited by the Examiner in the Office Action but not applied are believed to be merely of interest, and no further discussion of the references is deemed necessary or appropriate at this time.

On the basis of the foregoing Amendments and Remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that this application is in condition for immediate allowance, and notice to this effect is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below if it will advance the prosecution of this case.

It is believed that no fee is due with this Response. Please charge any fee deficiency to the undersigned attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0540.

Respectfully submitted,

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rich Moss", is written over a horizontal line.

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Fig.1

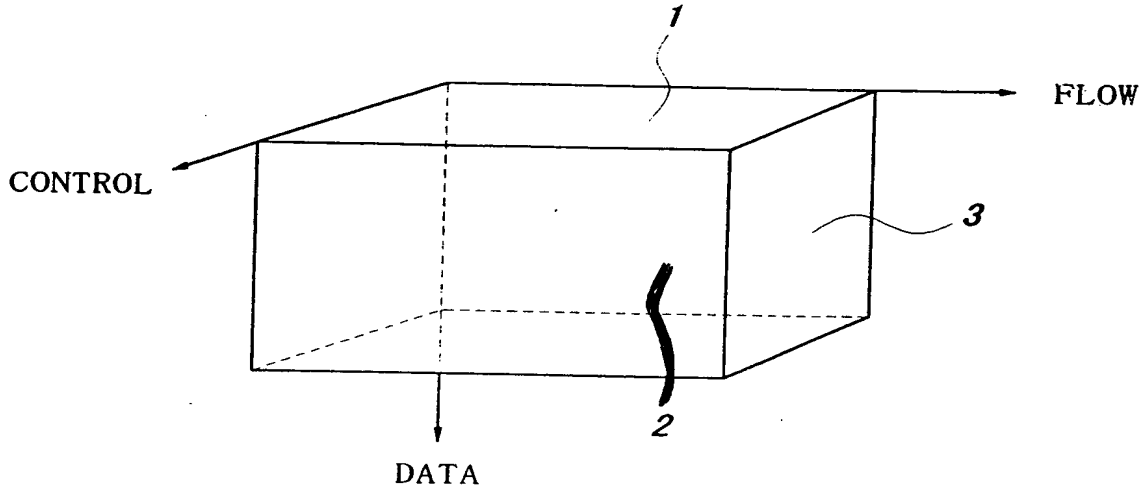


Fig.2

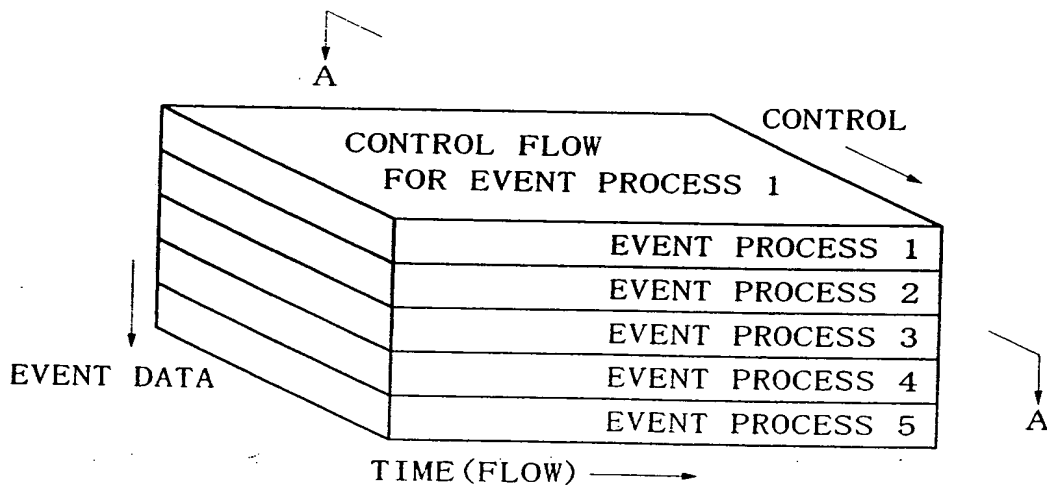




Fig.6

DERIVATIVE CLASS NAMES	BASIC CLASS NAMES
ACCESS TYPE 1 TYPE 1 EXTERNAL VARIABLE 1	ACCESS TYPE A TYPE A MEMBER FUNCTION 1 (TYPE a ARGUMENT a)
ACCESS TYPE 2 TYPE 2 EXTERNAL VARIABLE 2	ACCESS TYPE B TYPE B MEMBER FUNCTION 2 (TYPE b ARGUMENT b)
ACCESS TYPE 3 TYPE 3 EXTERNAL VARIABLE 3	ACCESS TYPE C TYPE C MEMBER FUNCTION 3 (TYPE c ARGUMENT c)
ACCESS TYPE 4 TYPE 4 EXTERNAL VARIABLE 4	ACCESS TYPE D TYPE D MEMBER FUNCTION 4 (TYPE d ARGUMENT d)
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Fig.7

TYPE C MEMBER FUNCTION 3				
TYPE 1 EXTERNAL VARIABLE NAME 1				
TYPE 2 EXTERNAL VARIABLE NAME 2				
TYPE 3 EXTERNAL VARIABLE NAME 3				
TYPE 4 EXTERNAL VARIABLE NAME 4				
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.	.			
TYPE c ARGUMENT c				
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TYPE c INTERNAL VARIABLE c				
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